

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method for the selective concentration of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or of particles initially comprised in a liquid sample, the method successively comprising:

- forming a stabilized dispersion of foam or emulsion type, from a medium comprising said liquid sample and an interface layer, which interface layer is, before forming the stabilized dispersion, a monolayer located at the surface of the liquid sample and which is able to selectively fix ~~said interface layer being capable of selectively fixing~~ said macromolecule or said agglomerate to be concentrated; and
- reforming said interface layer by the resorption of the dispersion formed during said forming a stabilized dispersion, said macromolecule or said agglomerate being concentrated in said interface layer.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein said forming a stabilized dispersion is carried out by mechanical agitation of the medium comprising said liquid sample and said interface layer.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 1, wherein said forming a stabilized dispersion is carried out by injection, directly into the liquid sample, of gaseous or liquid capillary jets.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the interface layer comprises at least one molecule, which selectively fixes ~~capable of selectively fixing~~ said macromolecule or said agglomerate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 4, wherein the molecule ~~capable of fixing~~ which selectively fixes the macromolecule or agglomerate of molecules or of particles to be concentrated is a molecule ~~comprising groups~~ capable of fixing the macromolecule or agglomerate by chemical affinity, electric or magnetic polarization, and/or ionization.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a macromolecule is selectively concentrated and is selected from the group consisting of nucleic acids, proteins, antigens and antibodies.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ an agglomerate of molecules is selectively concentrated and is a prion.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ an agglomerate of particles is selectively concentrated and is colloidal particles.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a macromolecule ~~[[to be]]~~ is selectively concentrated and is DNA.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 4, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a macromolecule ~~[[to be]]~~ is selectively concentrated and is DNA, and the molecule capable of fixing the DNA is functionalized with a probe to allow ~~[[the]]~~ specific hybridization of the DNA to be concentrated.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 10, wherein the molecule capable of fixing the DNA is a lipid functionalized with a DNA probe complementary to the DNA to be concentrated.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 11, wherein the lipid is a biotinylated lipid comprising an avidin group or avidin derivative, onto which the complementary DNA is grafted by means of a biotinylated end incorporated into said DNA beforehand.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 11, wherein the lipid is a cationic lipid comprising at least one spermine group onto which the complementary DNA is adsorbed.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A method for the purification of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or particles initially comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

concentrating said macromolecule or said agglomerate within ~~[[a]]~~ an interface layer using the method according to Claim 1, ~~and then~~

eliminating the liquid sample depleted of said macromolecule or said agglomerate;  
and

recovering the interface layer comprising selectively said macromolecule or said agglomerate.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method for the detection of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or particles initially comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

concentrating, within ~~[[a]]~~ an interface layer, said macromolecule or said agglomerate using the method according to Claim 1, and

detecting said macromolecule or said agglomerate within said interface layer.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method for the amplification of a macromolecule or of an agglomerate of molecules or of particles initially comprised in a liquid sample, the method comprising

concentrating said macromolecule or said agglomerate within ~~[[a]]~~ an interface layer using the method according to Claim 1, then

replacing said liquid sample, ~~within said layer,~~ with a liquid comprising amplification agents, and then

amplifying said macromolecule or said agglomerate by means of said agents.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 16, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a macromolecule is amplified and is a DNA.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The method according to Claim 16, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ an agglomerate of molecules is amplified and is a prion.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method according to Claim 5, wherein said molecule is a surfactant molecule.